

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO ALL DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR POSTS PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 231825

INFORM CONSULS

FOLLOWING REPEAT KUALA LUMPUR 5763 ACTION SECSTATE 27 SEP 75

QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L KUALA LUMPUR 5763

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ASEC

SUBJ: MODUS OPERANDI OF JRA TERRORISTS

REF: STATE 229253

1. LOCALE. AMERICAN EMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR IS LOCATED IN A 12-STORY OFFICE BUILDING OWNED BY THE AMERICAN INTERNATIONAL ASSURANCE CO. LTD. (AIA), OF WHICH THE EMBASSY OCCUPIES THE 10TH, 11TH AND 12TH FLOORS AND THE PENTHOUSE IN ITS ENTIRETY AND 1/3 OF THE 9TH FLOOR, THE REMAINDER OF THAT FLOOR BEING OCCUPIED BY COMMERCIAL BUSINESSES AND THE SWEDISH EMBASSY. ENTRY TO ANY FLOOR IS VIA THREE PASSENGER ELEVATORS, ONE FREIGHT ELEVATOR AND TWO STAIRWELLS.

2. DRESS. ALL FIVE TERRORISTS WERE NEATLY DRESSED IN MODISH
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WESTERN SUITS WITH COAT AND TIE, AND ALL WERE CARRYING AIRLINE-

TYPE FLIGHT BAGS. AFTER THE ATTACK WAS INITIATED ALL TERRORISTS DONNED HOODS AND THICK WOOL GLOVES WHICH THEY WORE FOR THE DURATION.

3. MANNER OF ENTRY. ONE OF THE FIVE TERRORISTS ENTERED THE CONSULATE AS A NORMAL VISITOR TO THE CONSULATE AND TOOK A SEAT IN THE WAITING ROOM AT ABOUT 10:15 A.M. THE REMAINING FOUR GOT ON THE ELEVATOR AT THE SHOPPING LEVEL AND WHILE RIDING UP TO THE NINTH FLOOR DISPLAYED THEIR WEAPONS, PUT ON THEIR HOODS AND TOOK THE OTHER PASSENGERS AS HOSTAGES. UPON ARRIVAL AT THE 9TH FLOOR THEY DISABLED THE ELEVATOR BY SHOOTING THE CONTROL PANEL AND MOVED THEIR HOSTAGES TO THE CONSULATE ENTERING AS ANY OTHER VISITOR AT ABOUT 10:20. WHILE THE FOUR WERE ENTERPNG, THE TERRORIST ALREADY IN PLACE PUT HIS HOOD ON AND PRODUCED HIS PISTOL WHILE ANNOUNCING THAT ALL RAISE THEIR HANDS AND KEEP QUIET. THE CONSULAR OFFICER AND HIS THREE FSLES WERE ALL IN THE OUTER OFFICE RECONCILING RECEIPTS SO THAT THEY AND THOSE IN THE WAITING ROOM WERE ALL TAKEN AT ONE STROKE. AFTER SEARCHING ALL HOSTAGESHAND PLACING THEM IN ONE AREA SOME OF THE TERRORISTS RETURNED TO THEELEVATOR LOBBY AND PUSHED THE ELEVATOR CALL BUTTON CAUSING THE TWO REMAINING ELEVATORS TO STOP AT NINE AND TOOK THE OCCUPANTS AS ADDITIONAL HOSTAGES. THEY WERE THEN IMMEDIATELY TAKEN TO THE CONSULATE, SEARCHED AND DETAINED. AFTER CAPTURING SEVERAL ELEVATOR LOADS THE TERRORISTS RETURNED TO THE CONSULATE AND SECURED THEIR POSITION WHILE ORDERING ANYONE ENTER-ING THE HALL OUT. THEN THEY BEGAN FIRING AT ANYONE ENTERING THE HALL FROM THEIR POSITION AT THE CONSULATE DOOR WHICH PROVIDED THEM COMPLETE CONTROL OF THE HALL. DURING THIS PERIOD AN UNARMED BUILDING GUARD AND A LOCAL POLICEMAN WERE SERIOUSLY WOUNDED AS THEY ATTEMPTED TO INVESTIGATE. SHOTS WERE ALSO FIRED AT AN EMBASSY EMPLOYEE, WHO WAS ALSO ATTEMPTING TO INVESTIGATE THE SITUATION. THE TERRORISTS THEN ESTABLISHED CONTACT BY TELEPHONE WITH THE EMBASSY TO ANNOUNCE THEIR DEMANDS. THEY ALSO THREW A LIST OF DEMANDS AND A PAMPHLET, BOTH APPARENTLY PREVIOUSLY PREPARED, OUT A WINDOW. IT WAS NOT UNTIL APPROXIMATELY TWO HOURS LATER THAT THEY TOOK CONTROL OF THE ENTIRE 9TH FLOOR THEREBY ADDING HOSTAGES FROM THE SWEDISH EMBASSY, AND THOSE IN THE REMAINING BUSINESS OFFICES ON THE 9TH FLOOR, FOR A TOTAL OF 51. ONCE THEY TOOK CONTROL OF THE ENTIRE FLOOR THEY BEGAN TO BARRICADE THE STAIRWELL DOORS. THEY SNIPED OCCASIONALLY AT

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PEOPLE OUTSIDE THE BUILDING, WOUNDING ONE MORE POLICEMAN WHILE DOING SO.

4. WEAPONS. EACH TERRORIST WAS ARMED WITH TWO SEMI-AUTOMATIC PISTOLS, EIGHT OF WHICH WERE PROBABLY BROWNING 9MM, AND THE REMAINING TWO WERE POSSIBLY A BERETTA 951 (9MM) BOTH OF WHICH WERE EQUIPPED WITH WHAT APPEARED TO BE SILENCERS. THEY ALSO CARRIED HAND GRENADES AND EXPLOSIVES.

5. PLANNING. IT HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED (IDENTIFIED FROM PHOTOS OF KNOWN JRA MEMBERS) THAT THREE OF THE TERRORISTS WERE SEEN IN THE AIA PARKING LOT LOOKING AT THE BUILDING ON THE EVENING OF AUGUST 1, 1975. THE ATTACK WAS WELL PLANNED, AND EXECUTED BY A HIGHLY DISCIPLINED GROUP.

UNDERHILL

UNQUOTE INGERSOLL

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